

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION V

110 1004

MEMORANDA

Subject: Letter of Appreciation

From: Richard C. Karl  
Acting Director, Superfund Division

To: Larry Zaragoza  
Associate Branch Chief  
OSRTI

Original signed by  
Richard C. Karl

In November 2003, you arranged for the Department of Energy Training for Managing Uncertainty and Systematic Planning for Environmental Decision-Making and Visual Sampling Plan (VSP) courses to be presented in Region 5. This training was very beneficial for the Remedial Project Managers (RPMs), Superfund Division quality assurance staff, staff from the Region 5 Waste, Pesticides & Toxics Division, and state agency personnel who attended. Thank you for arranging this training.

We rated the course as outstanding in its ability to cover the subject matter in a clear manner on how to use the data quality objective (DQO) process and the benefits derived from doing so. The course offered very valuable instructions how many samples you have to collect to characterize the site. The training not only provided a meaningful overview of the DQO process, it also offered the knowledge to operate the effective, electronically-based, and no-cost VSP software which should help in the designing of sampling plans.

We also want to thank Mr. Sebastian Tindall for making this course really outstanding. The instructor provided an excellent environment for the attendees to be motivated, a difficult thing considering the complexity of the subject. The class was very well put together. The energy in the presentation of this course was far above any other DQO classes attended by the Regional personnel.

Because a large number of Superfund Division staff was unable to attend the presentations in November, I am requesting that you arrange for the courses to be presented again in Chicago in the fall of 2004. We would again extend the invitation to our state agencies, contractors and other Region 5 personnel so they all could benefit from this outstanding course.

Thank you for your assistance. If you are able to provide us with an additional training session, please coordinate the logistics with Ida Levin of my staff who coordinated the November training.